

Feb. 7 1944

Mr Wendell Smith
c/o Pittsburg Courier
Pittsburg Pa.

Dear Friend:

I am writing to tell you our "Ligg" is meeting in New York March 3rd, Thresa Hotel, and begging you please try and come to it to sell your program to the members. I think you might have done some good if you had attended the last meeting. I was very sorry you were not there. The thing you are trying to get our baseball to do now, is the thing I have been begging for ever since we went in the business. I don't understand why all the members can not see what it will mean to the baseball, to give the fans this kind of information. Up to today, all the fans know is the names of the teams that are going to play. Imagine the interest if they knew the shortstop on a certain team, had a better feilding average than some one in the White Major League. This is very possible, but until the averages are kept, we cannot discuss the subject intelligently.

You will be doing not only the baseball, but the whole Negro race a service, if you can sell this program to the "Ligg" (Dave Hawkins) Please come to the meeting and try.

Our greatest opposition will come from the, teams that do not want honest averages released, because they may not have any men in leading positions, and from others who do not want us organized for fear we might grow too big, and interfere with their plans. I believe we have one of our staunch supporters, and our best bet in Dr. Martin, Pres. of the western "Ligg". You know, maybe better than me, we Negroes are not trained in business administration (some races do not seem to need any training) and as a result we do a lot of things wrong. But I believe down in our hearts we would like to do the thing that is best for our race. We realize we do not know ourselves, and we let people lead us who have other thoughts in mind. Mainly making money. I think I have said enough in this letter, and only hope you get my viewpoint. Just drop me a card to say you received the letter, don't bother to express any views. Please try and come to New York.

Very Truly Yours

PLEASE KEEP THIS LETTER CONFIDENTIAL